Sl. No.	Name of Project	pending since	Remarks/Reasons for delay
5	Renewal of Mining lease for coal in 113·084 ha. of forest area in Khamman district for Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.	20-7-87	Essential details sought from the State Govt. on 12-7-85 have been received on 20-7-87 and the same are being examined.
6	Diversion of 412·40 ha. of forest land for open cast mining of coal by M/s Singareni collieries in Khamman district	20-7-87	Essential details sought from the State Govt. on 13-3-86 have been received on 20-7-87 and the same are being examined.

A case in which essential details sought from the State Govt. are not received within the periodof three weeks as stipulated in the guidelines issued by this Department, is treated a closed, the same is re-opened as soon as the details are received from the State Government.

Recruitments in MMTC

1819. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman MMTC gave employment to about 250 persons during the last two years in the organisation;

(b) if so, what was the procedure adopted for the recruitment of such persons;

(c) whether guidelines laid-down by Government in this respect have been strictly followed; and

(d) if not, what are ther reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) 317 persons were recruited by MMTC in 1985 and 1986. MMTC Recruitment Rules provide for recruitment of employees based on selection by duly constituted Selection Committees. Modes of recruitment include resort to Employment Exchange, advertisements, campus recruitments, circulation of vacancies to public sector undertakings, Government Departments, applications received from professionally qualified candidates of outstanding merit, etc. Recruitments are also made on compassionate grounds in the case of next of kin of employees dying in harness, as laid down in the company policy, as also the delegation of powers.

(c) and (d) Recruitments are made as per Corporation's Recruitment Rules which have been framed keeping in view the guidelines of the Government, wherever laid down.

Grants-in-aid to Punjab and Chandigarh for environment related activities

1820. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of grants-in-aid provided by the Central Government to Punjab and Union Territory of Chandigarh, separately during the year 1986-87 for environment related activities; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for this purpose for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Punjab: Rs. 196.57 lakhs;

Chandigarh: Nil

(b) Punjab: Rs. 190 lakhs (earmarked);

Chandigarh: Nil

Cases pending in labour courts and industrial tribuals

1821. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending before various Labour Courts and In-

dustrial Tribunals in different States, as on the 31st March, 1986 and 31st March, 1987; and

(b) the steps contemplated to ensure expeditious disposal of disputes in such Courts|Tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The information relating to the industrial disputes pending before Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals in the States|Union Territories is not maintained. However, according to available information, 213206 cases were pending as on 31.12.85 in different States|Union Territories barring the States of Nagaland and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The Working Group on Industrial Relations constituted for the formulation of the 7th Five Year Plan had recommended norms for disposal of cases and establishment of new courts. As per these recommendations, norms for disposal for each Tribunal should be 10 contested cases and for each Labour Court 20 contested applications per month and the normal workload of an Industrial Tribunal should be 200 cases and of the Labour Court 800 applications. These recommendations were communicated to all the State Governments/Union Territories with the request that remedial action be taken to reduce the pendency of cases. The State Governments/Union Territories set up Industrial Tribunals|Labour Courts under the provision of Industrial Disputes Act for the State sphere. The State Government/Union Territories are addressed from time to time to review the position of cases and wherever necessary set up additional Tribunals|Courts.

Visit of Japanese Economic Delegation

1822. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Japanese economic delegation had visited India recently for exploring further trade prospects between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) A delegation from the Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry visited India in June, 1987, to attend the 10th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Indo-Japan Business Cooperation Council.

Discussions were held on expansion of bilateral trade, areas of technical and financial collaboration, etc.

Amendment in air pollution control Act

1823. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the existing Air-pollution Control Act so as to make it more stringent;

(b) if so, what are the details of the amendments likely to be made in this regard; and

(c) by when the Act will be brought into force in major cities of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) to (c) A bill to amend the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 30.7.1987.

Pollution control boards in states

1824. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: